

Application/Control Number: 09/631,411

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DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-20 are pending in the instant application.

Election/Restriction

Claims 1-10, 15-20 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in Paper No. 6.

Applicant's election with traverse of Group VI in Paper No. 6 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that Groups V and VI are both drawn to similar methods and would be a burden to search as a single invention. This is not found persuasive because the different and distinct inventions comprise different methods steps and the examination of each invention requires different searches of the prior art and consideration of different issues including enablement and proper examination of both of these distinct and independent groups would be burdensome.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Allowable Subject Matter

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims (1-10 and 15-20) drawn to an invention non-elected with traverse in Paper No. 6. Applicant is given ONE MONTH or THIRTY DAYS from the date of this letter, whichever is longer, to cancel the noted

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claims or take other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144). Failure to take action during this period will be treated as authorization to cancel the noted claims by Examiner's Amendment and pass the case to issue. Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) will not be permitted since this application will be passed to issue.

The prosecution of this case is closed except for consideration of the above matter.

Conclusion

Certain papers related to this application may be submitted to Art Unit 1635 by facsimile transmission. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993) and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993) (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.6(d)). The official fax telephone numbers for the Group are (703) 308-4242 and (703) 305-3014. NOTE: If Applicant *does* submit a paper by fax, the original signed copy should be retained by applicant or applicant's representative. NO DUPLICATE COPIES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED so as to avoid the processing of duplicate papers in the Office.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Jane Zara** whose telephone number is **(703) 306-5820**. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John LeGuyader, can be reached on (703) 308-0447. Any inquiry regarding this application should be directed to the patent analyst, Katrina Turner, whose telephone number is (703) 305-3413. Any inquiry of a

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general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

JZ

August 1, 2002